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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: AFSP APER, AU

SUBJECT: RESTRUCTURING OF EAST-WEST TRADE CENTER

REFERENCE: VIENNA 3684

FOR AMBASSADOR BUCHANAN

1. USDOC HAS REVIEWED REFTELS AND OFFERS THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS SUBJECT TO EMBASSY CONCURRENCE AS DISCUSSED DURING BERLIN COMMERCIAL CONFERENCE AND IN RECENT DOWNEY CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR BUCHANNAN, BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS NECESSITATE RE-STRUCTURING OF CENTER. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONTRIBUTE ITS VIEWS EXPEDITIOUSLY.

2. RECOMMEND NAME OF REVISED EWTC ACTIVITIES BE CHANGED TO EAST-WEST TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (EWTDO) AND THAT IT BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTEGRAL ELEMENT OF ECON/COMMERCIAL SECTION, AND BE UNDER

MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNSELOR OF ECON/COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS, BE HEADED BY OFFICER-IN-CHARGE IN COMMERCE POSITION AND THAT HENNING VONTILLIUS BE ASSIGNED THAT POSITION AT APPROPRIATE TIME.

3. CONCUR EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATIONS 1.A THROUGH D. HOWEVER, THE EAST-WEST TRADE INFORMATION BULLETIN IS CURRENTLY BEING EVALUATED, AND A SEPARATE MESSAGE ON THE BULLETIN WILL BE SENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. RE PARAGRAPH 1.E., WASHINGTON ENVISAGES STAFFING OF ONE GS-14 (VONTILLIUS), ONE LOCAL PROFESSIONAL (KOSEK), AND ONLY ONE SECRETARY. KOSEK NOW ON EMBASSY ROLES FOR WHICH EMBASSY IS REIMBURSED. DESIRE SAME ARRANGEMENT FOR SINGLE SECRETARY INVOLVED. ONLY PERSONNEL COUNT CHARGEABLE TO COMMERCE WOULD BE VONTILLIUS, BUT COMMERCE WILL REIMBURSE STATE FOR BOTH LOCAL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO EWTDO. DESIRE APPROPRIATE TRANSFER/SEPARATION LOCAL SECRETARIES ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30.

5. RE PARAGRAPH 1.F., ALL FUTURE MARKET STUDIES WILL BE DONE FROM WASHINGTON BASE REGARDLESS OF USSR MARKET SURVEY EVALUATION. ASSUME WHELAN DESIRES RETURN TO WASHINGTON. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. RE PARAGRAPH 1.G., PLAN USE VONTILLIUS FOR EXHIBIT EFFORTS IN ACCORD WITH PAST PATTERN. PREFER NOT TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL POSITION AT THIS TIME. IN VONTILLIUS' ABSENCE ON SUCH ASSIGNMENTS, OTHER ECON/COMMERCIAL STAFF COULD COVER ACTIVITIES (SEE PARAGRAPH 2).

7. RE PARAGRAPH 2, OPT FOR ALTERNATIVE B. HOWEVER, IN VIEW PLANNED STAFFING, QUESTION NEED ENTIRE 100 SQUARE METER 5 ROOM SUITE. AS PART REFURBISHING COULD SOME OF THIS AREA BE SET-UP FOR STORAGE OF PART OF THE EXHIBIT EQUIPMENT? COULD VSIS (AMERIKA HAUS) PROVIDE REQUIRED STORAGE SPACE? COMMENT REQUESTED, INCLUDING ANNUAL COST ESTIMATE WITH ALTERNATIVES IF ADDITIONAL STORAGE SPACE REQUIRED. REQUEST SOONEST COST ESTIMATE OF (A) MOVING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND (B) REFURBISHING EMBASSY QUARTERS.

8. IF EMBASSY CONCURS ON ABOVE, PLEASE PROCEED ON EARLIEST FEASIBLE CANCELLATION OF PRESENT EWTC LEASE CONSISTENT WITH MOVEMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL INTO EMBASSY SPACE. ADVISE SOONEST OF TIMING AND ANY RESIDUAL COST. IF EMBASSY DOES NOT CONCUR IN ANY OF THE ABOVE, PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.

9. BELIEVE IMPERATIVE WE FORMULATE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC
RELATION MEASURES TO REFUTE ANY SUGGESTIONS THAT CHANGE
IN LOCATION OF CURRENT EAST-WEST TRADE CENTER AND THE
RELINQUISHING OF EXHIBIT SPACE IMPLY ANY LESSENING OF
USG INTEREST IN EAST-WEST TRADE EXPANSION. EMBASSY VIEWS
AND SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED. KISSINGER

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